

# MULLINS MESSENGER

4 N Mendenhall Road  
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Phone: 901.685.8253  
Mullinsumc.org

## WE WALK BY FAITH...

### FAITH AND OUR CALL TO EMPOWERMENT

Join us for A Call to Empowerment, a sermon series based on Luke 2:52. Together, we will explore how faith empowers us to grow as Jesus grew — in wisdom, stature, favor with God, and favor with man.

This series will remind us that faith is more than belief; faith is the foundation for a life shaped by God's grace. Through faith, we learn to make wise choices, grow in strength and maturity, deepen our relationship with God, and become a blessing to others.

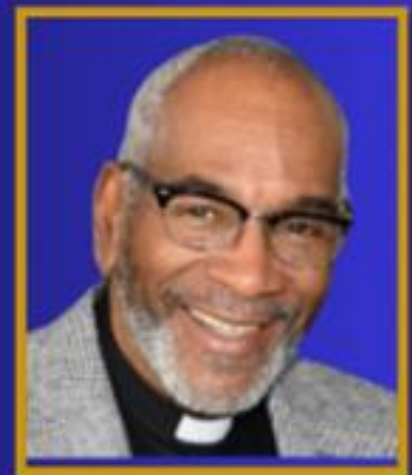
A Call to Empowerment invites us to walk the Road of Life to Eternal Life as protégés of Jesus — trusting God, growing in grace, and living with purpose.



# MAY

## 2026

ALL ARE  
WELCOME  
HERE



Rev. Dr. Russell Morrow, Sr.

## A Season of Change . .



As the upcoming TWK annual conference marks a season of transition for our congregation, we are encouraged to walk by faith and join together in prayer,

giving thanks for all that God has given us and trusting in new blessings God has in store for us!

## Pastoral Projections

\* Jen McGee of the Mullins SPRC announced during Sunday worship April 19 that, effective July 2026, the projected new pastor for Mullins UMC will be the **Rev. Larry Chitwood** (coming to us from Clopton UMC in Brighton).

\* As most already know, after four years of faithful service at Mullins, the **Rev. Dr. Russell Morrow, Sr.** is being appointed to a newly created conference position, assistant Dist. Supt. of a new TWK Southwestern District!

Both assignments become official during the 2026 TWK Conference. Stay tuned for more information!

## 2026 Annual Conference



The 2026 Tennessee-Western Kentucky Annual Conference, which affirms pastoral appointments, is scheduled for June 7 -10 at Murfreesboro First UMC. Voting members may participate in person or online. A live-stream will be available. The conference theme is “Rekindling Our Call.”

**TENNESSEE-WESTERN KENTUCKY  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2026**

## Timeline for Transitions

Note: The TWK conference lists the following timeline for pastoral transitions:  
\*6/21/26---Final Sunday for pastor in pulpit  
\*6/23/26---Moving Day  
\*6/28/26---Pulpit Guest  
\*7/5/26----Pulpit Guest  
\*7/6/26----First day in office for new pastor  
\*7/12/26---First day in pulpit for new pastor

## Children’s Ministry Update!

Appreciation to our new Children’s Ministry Director, **Tiffany Lane**, for recent activities, including the children’s choir on Palm Sunday and the egg hunt April 4th!

Thanks also to all who donated items for Jacob’s Well through the **Little Saints** and the **Young Disciples for Christ** classes!

Watch for more good news coming soon!



*“Children are a gift from the Lord!”*

*---Psalm 127:3*

## Meet the New Staff Member!



Hello, Mullins UMC Family! I am delighted to serve as your new Children’s Ministry Director! I come to you with 20 + years of experience working with children and families. My background includes both educational and ministerial experience in MS and TN. I have served on local, district, and state levels in children and youth ministry and my service (in both education and ministry) has yielded success. Currently I impact the lives of children at Lausanne Collegiate School!

As we embark upon this journey together, I need you! We want to grow and expand in order to benefit from the longevity of Mullins’ legacy. (We are in need of Sunday School teachers for both classes, as well as Children’s Message volunteers.) Together, let’s continue to make Mullins grow and experience higher heights of greatness.

Yours in Service, **Tiffany Lane**  
Children’s Ministry Director

## Litter Mates May 2

Our next clean-up is May 2, from 10 am to 11 am. We will be cleaning up Southern Avenue! Theatre Memphis has agreed to let us use their parking lot (630 Perkins Ext., 38117). The parking lot entrance we will use is on Southern Ave. Join us! **Emily Pittman**

## Golden Cross Invitation



Golden Cross Senior Ministries invites you to "Go for the Gold!" Trivia Night on Thursday, May 7, from 5:30 to 9:00 pm at Germantown UMC. This fun evening of trivia and community raises funds to provide vulnerable seniors across West Tennessee with basic living assistance, emergency support, and social enrichment. Help reach the \$40,000 campaign goal. See flyer with more info or contact **Barbara Kercher**.



**Join us Mother's Day, May 10<sup>th</sup>**

## UWF Meeting May 12

Mullins United Women in Faith will gather in the chapel Tuesday, May 12, at 10:30 am for our last meeting before our summer hiatus. Join us! **Margaret Brown**  
*(Lunch together afterwards TBD!)*

## Gratitude for Graduates

Mullins gives thanks for 2026 graduates, including **Christen Atkinson**, who will receive a degree (MA in Teaching--Dyslexia Specialist) from Colorado College May 17! *Please contact church office with news of other graduates.*



### Concord Academy

Congratulations to the seniors of Concord Academy, who will graduate May 7, in a 6 pm ceremony in the Mullins Sanctuary.

### Parents Day Out

Children who participate in the Mullins PDO program will celebrate graduation at 5:30 pm May 19, in the Mullins Sanctuary.



## Appreciation

\* Thanks to all who are making financial contributions to help us purchase items for summer Blessing Bags! Volunteers will soon begin assembling new bags for distribution!  
**Suzie Morris**

\* Mullins UWF members provided Easter Basket items for Dorothy Day House families through United Methodist Neighborhood Centers of Memphis. Way to go, ladies!  
**Brenda Carson**

\* Dear Church Friends, I appreciate all your cards, food, and prayers on my behalf following my surgery in January. You have helped me more than you know, especially continuing through my PT, which is still happening. You are the best. **Charles Griffin**



## Church-Wide Sunday School

The next "5<sup>th</sup> Sunday" Church-Wide Sunday School will be May 31 in Fellowship Hall. We'll continue a Show & Tell format, with the New Directions Class taking the spotlight this month. Join us for faith, fellowship & refreshments! **Camille Bradley**

# May Birthdays

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date:</u>
Shan Tracy.....	4
Anne Phillips .....	5
Bob Earley .....	6
Frances Speer .....	6
Barbara Kercher.....	8
Justin McGee .....	11
Don Eddins .....	13
Peter Mason.....	15
Rachel Mayhan .....	17
Tommy Scruggs.....	19
Carolyn Childs.....	19
Molly Tracy.....	19
Ella Waddell .....	21
Stella Webb.....	22
Isabelle Smith .....	24
Kendall Rust.....	27
Brytol Stratton .....	28
Diana Baker .....	29
Muka Kambol .....	29
Bryan Carter.....	30

## May Anniversaries:

Bob & Gwynne May .....	26
Tommy & Sandy Scruggs ..	28
Ben Kennedy & Amy Wood..	30
Justin & Allison Webb .....	31



Church Women United Clothing Drive!



Children Sing "Hosana, Hosana" on Palm Sunday

Litter Mates get the job done!



## Spring Snapshots!

# Worship Notes

(Weekly on-site services are live streamed)

**May 3--- Holy Communion**  
Message: Rev. Dr. Russell Morrow

**May 10 --- Mother's Day**  
Message: TBA



**May 17**  
Message: Rev. Dr. Russell Morrow

**May 24 --- Pentecost**  
Message: Rev. Dr. Russell Morrow



**May 31**  
Message: Rev. Dr. Russell Morrow

May Liturgist: Julia Howell



May Ushers: Johnny Welch, Cyndi Watkins,  
Paula McGoldrick, Katie Williams

May Communion Offering:  
Lakeshore Camp  
& Retreat Center



## Altar Flowers

The 2026 Flower Calendar is posted outside the church office. Consider days you would like to give flowers in honor or in memory of loved ones, and stop by or call the office to sign up. (\$75 per arrangement)

# Prayer List

## Recent Concerns:

Nancy Blankenship Lisa Johns  
Charlotte Milton Scruggs Family  
Carolyn Childs Bill Tutt Bob Earley  
*(Note: The complete Prayer List is available on tables inside our main church entrances.)*

## Sympathy:

\*To **Betty Ratcliff** in the loss of her sister,  
**Brenda Protzman**

\*To **Cece Palazola**, Concord executive director, in the loss of her husband, **Andrew**.

## Blessings:

\*To **Kathryn & Steve Black** and **Nancy Blankenship**, on the birth of grandchild and great-grandchild **Sophie Sellers** on April 24. Proud parents are **Casey & Douglas Sellers**, and the happy big sister is **Hope Sellers!**

## On-Site Presence

	Apr 5	Apr 12	Apr 19	Apr 26
8:30 am Chapel	NA	-----21	-----15	-----17
10:50 am Service	140	-----69	-----80	-----76
Easter Sunrise	35			

## Special Gifts

### Budget:

In memory of Megan Elizabeth Fox by Gary Nickless

In memory of Charles Speer by David & Ruth Cox

In memory of Jim Solley by David & Ruth Cox

In memory of Rubye Thompson by David & Ruth Cox

### Maanza a Leza:

In memory of Wayne Carson by David & Ruth Cox

### Music Fund:

In memory of Jane McGoldrick by David & Ruth Cox



Remember that eGiving is available at Mullins, in addition to giving by check. You can give online from our website by clicking the Give Now link. You also may text "Mullins" to 73256

# May 2026

## Meetings & Special Events:

Saturday, May 2---Litter Mates  
Sunday, May 3---Homebound Communion  
Monday, May 4---Worship Team Mtg  
Thursday, May 7---Golden Cross fundraiser  
---Concord Graduation  
Sunday, May 10---Mother's Day  
Tuesday, May 12---UWF Gen Mtg  
Wednesday, May 13---Grief Support Grp  
Tuesday, May 19---PDO Graduation  
Sunday, May 24---Pentecost  
Monday, May 25---Memorial Day (Office Closed)  
Tuesday, May 26---Trustees Mtg  
Wednesday, May 27---Grief Support Grp  
Sunday, May 31---5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Joint Sunday School

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

June 1 – Admin Council Mtg  
June 7 -10---TWK Annual Conference  
June 13---Jacob's Well ministry  
June 19---Juneteenth Holiday  
June 21---Father's Day  
---Pastor's Final Sunday in Pulpit  
June 22, 23, 24---Revival  
June 28---Pulpit Guest  
July 5---Pulpit Guest  
July 6---1<sup>st</sup> day in office for new pastor  
July 12---1<sup>st</sup> day in pulpit for new pastor  
TBD---Church 181<sup>st</sup> Birthday event



## General Weekly Schedule:

### Sundays

8:30 am---Chapel Service  
9:45 am---Sunday School  
10:50 am---Worship in Sanctuary

### Tuesdays

6:00 pm---Chess Club, Main Library  
6:30 pm---Pastor's On-line Bible Study

### Wednesdays

11:00 am---Women's Prayer Group  
6:00 pm---Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### Thursdays

6:30 pm---Mullins Community Orchestra

*Thanks be to God!*

## Contact Information

### Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Russell Morrow, Sr.  
russell@mullinsumc.org

### Administrative Assistant

Elaine Winn  
elaine@mullinsumc.org

### Financial & Membership Administrator

Lisa Crawford  
lisa@mullinsumc.org

### Children's Ministry Director

Tiffany Lane  
tiffany@mullinsumc.org

### Director of Music Ministries

Terrell Hall  
terrell@mullinsumc.org

### Musical Accompanist

Rebecca McGuire  
rebecca@mullinsumc.org

## Mullins Messenger

The Messenger is prepared electronically and posted on the Mullins web page on the first of each month. Printed copies are available through the church office. Please submit articles to the office.

Deadline for the June issue is May 22.

## Mission Statement

We are the hands and feet of Jesus by loving our church family and cherishing our diverse community through worship, study, service and witness.